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SUBJECT: DAILY IRAQI WEBSITE MONITORING - September 26, 2005

SUMMARY: Discussion on Iranian influence in Iraq; the Iraqi foreign ministry; and the proposed Honor Accord were the major editorial themes of Iraqi, Arabic language websites on September 26, 2005. END SUMMARY.

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(Iraq 4 All News, 9/26)
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SELECTED COMMENTARIES

- [1A.](#) "What Is the Secret to Iran's Strength . It's Iraq!"
(Editorial by Khair Allah Khair Allah - Iraq 4 All News -
<http://iraq4all.org/viewnews.php?id=10046>)

"It might be too late to do anything for Iraq. Our fears have become reality: the war that America launched to topple the Iraqi regime has resulted in Iraq's capitulation to Iran.

"Before entering Iraq, Americans planted the seeds of sectarianism by providing literature to Iraqi opposition that included phrases like: "The majority Shiites." The Iranian regime loves phrases like this. Opposition groups taking refuge in Iran added a Shiite touch to other opposition groups in the United States, including that of Ahmed Al-Chalabi-the most familiar face among these opposition forces.

"After entering Iraq, Americans dissolved the Iraqi Army and left hundreds of thousands of families with no way to earn a living. This was followed by the formation, on an ethnic and sectarian basis, of the Iraqi Governing Council, which stoked fears within the Sunni Arab community and further drove Sunnis towards extremism.

"While many issues have surfaced since the U.S. began its occupation, we cannot escape the fact that Iran has been the major winner of this war, followed by the Kurds who managed to organize their affairs and lay the groundwork for an eventual independent state.

"To see how far Iranian influence extends in Iraq, all you need to do is reflect on the situation involving British forces in southern Iraq. They have become Iranian hostages ever since London joined the European-American debate over Tehran's nuclear program. Basra, where British forces operate, has become an Iranian city for all intents and purposes.

"The spell has turned against the Americans in Iraq. Control in Iraq has become Iran's secret strength these days, and Iran is proving that it has the ability to manipulate all issues related to its nuclear program. Iran has won the Iraq war without fighting. It uses its Iraqi agents to direct corruption scandals at the former Minister of Defense, Hazim Al-Shalan-one of the few who took a stand against the Iranian role in Iraq. Will Americans continue their search for fictional achievements in a country consumed by civil war while Iran continues to gain the upper hand?"

- [1B.](#) "Good Morning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs"
(Editorial by Muhsin Radhi AL-Daraji - Sot Al-Iraq -
<http://www.sotaliraq.com/articles-iraq/nieuws .php?id=16139>)

"When will our foreign ministry stand up for diplomacy and tradition? It seems that our officials only smile for the cameras while Iraqis suffer. The ministry has exhibited its indecisiveness many times. It condemns the indecisiveness of the Syrian government but fails to set a timeline for solving problems between the two countries. Iraqi bloodshed continues. And why hasn't the ministry demanded that America, as Iraq's principal political caretaker, intervene to solve these problems and refer this case of Syrian indifference to the U.N.?

"We demand that our government come to some conclusions about what is taking place along our borders with Jordan,

Saudi Arabia, Iran, and even Kuwait. Do ministry officials simply attend international conferences and meetings, or do they actually monitor what is going on in the world and keep an eye on implications for Iraq; develop relationships between Iraqis and our friends abroad, and monitor foreign media that incite violence and hostility?

"Our foreign ministry should play a central role, and our ambassadors should assume their national duty and serve as true representatives of Iraq. The role of ambassadors should not be restricted to issuing passports and granting visas; it should include monitoring all that takes place in our missions' host countries. We see other foreign ministries withdraw ambassadors and dismiss individuals in connection with various and sundry events all the time. Iraq, too, has witnessed many events: explosions in Hilla, statements by the king of Jordan, Amr Musa, and the Saudi Foreign Minister, the Beirut Ba'athist conference, and the "Anbar Residents Conference" in Jordan, but none has elicited a reply from our foreign ministry informing these countries that their actions hindered the Iraqi political process.

"We wish our foreign ministry would review its policies of courtesy and good manners-policies that are detrimental to our rights and our people."

1C. "An Honor Accord"

(Independent Iraqi News Agency - <http://www.normal.iraq-ina.com/showarticles.php?id=1407>)

"Muslim Scholars' Association member, Sheikh Mahmoud Mahdi Al Sumaida'i, issued a call for an "honor accord to prohibit fighting" between Iraqis. The accord is considered a crucial step in reducing tension between Iraq's various factions. The accord followed the release of one of Al-Zarqawi's most divisive tapes, in which he called for the murder of Shiite Iraqis.

"The call for a national dialogue and reconciliation among the country's factions is one element of an eloquent response to Al Zarqawi's provocations. But this kind of accord cannot be effective (and it will not initiate a productive dialogue) unless there is an end to all armed operations that target Iraqi civilians. This would give much needed credibility to Sumaida'i's call.

"Al Sumaida'i and the Muslim Scholars' Association must follow through on their call if they wish to transform their idea of an honor accord into a reality-a reality that will improve relations and maintain the unity and freedom of the Iraqi people."

KHALILZAD